

The Farmington Times

FARM DEPARTMENT

AUTHORITATIVE ARTICLES PREPARED BY GOVERNMENT AND STATE RESEARCH EXPERTS



HATCHET BEST FOR SICK HENS

Many Reasons Enumerated Why Ailing Fowls Should Be Killed Rather Than Cured.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The most reliable and profitable method for curing sick poultry is the hatchet. At least that seems to have been the experience of a large number of commercial poultry raisers. They find that it does not pay to spend much time or money in trying to bring a sick fowl back to health. One reason is that it takes considerable time, during which the bird will not be laying, and another is that a sick bird is always a menace to the rest of the flock. However, in spite of the efficiency of the hatchet as a cure, it is not good business to be careless just because such an efficient remedy is at hand. Prevention in most cases is not difficult nor costly, and pays big dividends.

The poultry flock is subject to a number of diseases, some of which spread rapidly and cause big losses. The birds may also be infested with various parasites, some of which live on the surface of the body and others in the various parts of the interior. Such parasites, whether they are outside or inside workers, are injurious because they take a part of the nourishment which should be used to put on flesh or to produce eggs, and also because of irritation and inflammation of the parts they attack.

The contagious diseases caused by germs and the weakness and loss of flesh caused by the larger parasites are the most important conditions which the poultryman must consider in order to keep his birds in health. These germs and parasites can be kept down by suitable preventative measures, and the aim of study of the diseases should be to learn prevention rather than cure. Medicines may be given advantageously at times but as a rule, as



Profits Are Greater Where Houses Are Kept in Sanitary Condition.

has been suggested, it is better to kill the sufferer. There is another reason not yet mentioned that makes the killing of sick birds desirable. Birds that first contract diseases are apt to be the weakest ones in the flock and should be culled out.

The more birds kept on a farm or plot of ground and the more they are crowded the greater the danger from contagion and parasites, and the more important the measures for excluding, eradicating, and preventing development of these causes of disease.

The best way to do this is to secure eggs from a flock that has shown no indication of contagious disease for at least a year. If precautions are taken to keep the eggs absolutely clean and they are hatched in a thoroughly cleaned incubator the young chicks will have a much better chance. They will also grow up with a better chance of escaping disease if they are raised in clean brooders and kept upon ground where poultry has not run for some time.

Sometimes these directions cannot be followed explicitly. If all the available ground has been recently used for poultry, fowls should be taken from that part which is to be used for the new flock, a good coating of freshly slacked lime applied to the surface, and a few days later it should be plowed. Then it should be cultivated three or four times with intervals of a week, and finally sowed to a small grain crop. In a few months the greater part of the germs will be destroyed, but it is better to leave the ground uncultivated by poultry until a winter has passed.

It is more difficult to raise a new flock free from parasites if the eggs are hatched by hens, for hens may carry lice and mites and various parasites. For this reason it is a good idea to select hens for brooding from a flock free from disease and pests.

FEEDING CATTLE IS GOOD PLAN FOR MARKETING VARIOUS CROPS

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Although corn belt cattle feeders have lost money the last two years, yet on the average for five years or more the industry has been profitable on many farms and is a line of production which will continue to be an important branch of American agriculture.

The bureau of animal industry, United States Department of Agriculture, has recently issued Farmer's Bulletin No. 1218, "Beef Production in the Corn Belt," which contains valuable suggestions to the corn belt feeders on the economical production of beef.

The investigations on which the bulletin is based were conducted by the department on 800 farms of the corn belt and every phase of the problem, from raising calves or buying feeders to the marketing of the finished steer, is treated in considerable detail.

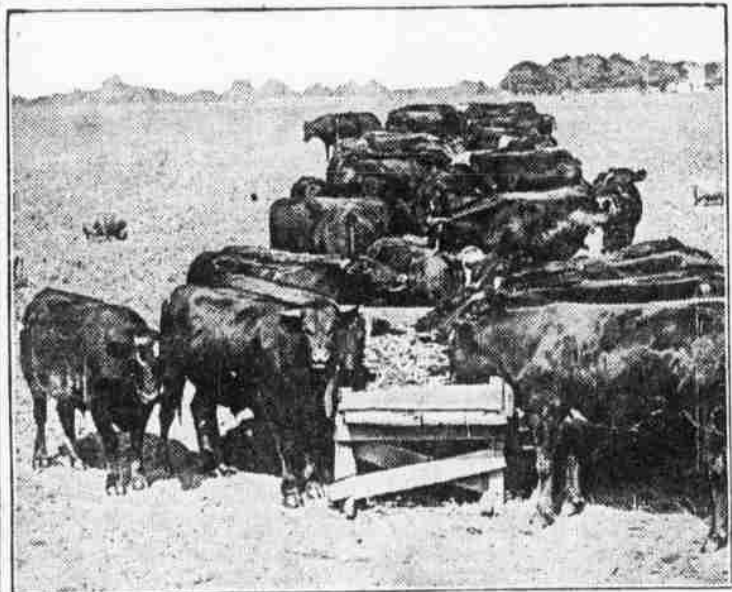
The general tendency in the corn belt to plow up permanent pastures and produce more cultivated crops caused a decline in beef raising, but the keeping of cows to raise calves has continued to be profitable on land too rough, too wet, or too infertile for cultivation. The reduction of pasture has been compensated for

for higher prices. The older the animal the quicker it will fatten, as it will use less feed for growth and more for fat production.

Mature feeders fatten in three to four months, two-year-olds in 5 to 7 months, yearlings in eight to ten months, and calves in ten to twelve months. Older cattle use roughages more advantageously, but in general young animals make more economical use of all feeds. Mature cattle require from nine to eleven pounds of digestible nutrients to make a pound of gain, whereas yearlings use six to eight pounds, and calves only four to six pounds.

Feeding cattle for the market is simply one method of marketing the crops. On 287 farms in the corn belt an average of 35 per cent of the 1919 crops was fed to cattle. Fully 90 per cent of the fattened cattle in this area are dry-lot fed and are marketed before July 1. The various methods of feeding and the feeds used are fully discussed in the bulletin.

Feed Alfalfa and Clover Hay. Alfalfa and clover hay are by far the most popular dry roughages, as they take the place of commercial protein concentrates to a large extent. Grass hays, with the exception of timothy mixed with clover, are very little



Summer Fattening in Corn Belt on Grass, With Corn as a Supplement.

to some extent by the greater use of clover, alfalfa, and corn silage. However, since 1905 there has been some increase in feeder production in the corn belt due to the breaking up of western ranges for dry farming and irrigation.

The investigation, which was carried on for three years, showed that he feed cost of keeping a cow was 3 per cent of the entire cost of maintenance for a year, while 31 per cent represented interest, labor, equipment and incidentals. The total number of cows on the 800 farms was 23,258, an average of 25 to the farm. The per cent of calves raised was practically 85. It was found that costs could be reduced through three factors—increasing the credits from the cows, improving the herd, and economy in feeding.

Early Fall Buying of Feeders Best.

When feeders are not raised on the farm buying and selling ability plays an important part. In some seasons certain weights and classes of cattle may be purchased more economically than others. Ordinarily early fall buying is preferable, as competition between packers and feeders usually increases as winter approaches.

The higher the quality of the feeder steer the better use he will make of his feed, though he usually eats more of it. But this consideration should not cause the buyer to lose sight of the price. Fleishy feeders can often be used to advantage on short feeds, and when there are very good prospects

used. The use of stovers and straws has a direct bearing on the economy of gains, and all such feeds should be used on the farm.

The most popular protein concentrates in the corn belt are cottonseed meal and cake and linseed meal. Corn, oats, and barley are the carbohydrate concentrates most used. Molasses feed and other miscellaneous concentrates are in much demand in some sections. Supplying protein is of more concern to the cattle feeder than supplying the other constituents of the ration because it is usually purchased.

Cottonseed meal, while it is used more extensively throughout the corn belt as a whole, is no more popular than linseed meal.

Purchase Price Is Half of Cost.

In fattening a steer the combined operating expenses usually more than equal the original purchase price of the feeder. The factors considered in operating expenses are feed, labor, building and equipment, interest, marketing, insurance and taxes. Feed usually constitutes about 80 per cent of this expense. All the other items are generally balanced by the manure and pork credits.

The preceding paragraphs are a very brief outline of the investigation of beef production in the corn belt. Those interested in a thorough study of the various operations and cost figures should secure a copy of the bulletin, which can be obtained free from the department of agriculture.

CREOSOTE TREATMENT IS BEST FOR SHORT-LIVED FARM WOODS

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Although more expensive at the outset, creosoted posts are generally more economical to use than many kinds of untreated, short-lived woods, because of their much greater lasting qualities, the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture has determined. The exceptions would be in remote localities with cheap wood and labor, and where it would be expensive to obtain creosote.

The large saving in the replacement charges, which ordinarily mount up so high in maintaining a fence, and the use of cheap and inferior kinds of woods in the first place, much more than offset the increased cost of thorough treatment with creosote. Treated posts are a good investment, and their use where lasting woods are scarce or expensive is a sign of sound judgment in farm management.

The best treatment is that which results in the deepest penetration into

the wood with the least absorption of creosote. The butts of the posts should be placed for one to two hours in creosote heated to a temperature of 180 degrees to 220 degrees F. It is important to treat the wood to a height of a foot above the proposed ground line. In the southern states the entire post should then be submerged into oil, at 80 degrees to 100 degrees F., for one or two hours, or for such a time as is necessary to get good penetration. In the North, where decay is less rapid, the hot treatment is applied only to the butts, which are allowed to remain for two or three hours in the cooling process, the tops being treated by painting or dipping in creosote.

Further information on creosoting fence posts will be found in Farmers' Bulletin 744, Preservative Treatment of Farm Timbers, available upon request from the Department of Agriculture.



DAIRY CATTLE ON DRY FARM

Government Begins Study of Dairying and Crop Possibilities in Southwest.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In order to study the possibilities of dairying and to develop better methods of crop utilization in the dry-farming regions of the Southwest, the bureau of animal industry of the United States Department of Agriculture has established a herd of purebred dairy cattle on a farm in the semi-arid district of northwestern Oklahoma. The bureau of plant industry has had a farm here near the town of Woodward for many years, and has studied such crops as grain sorghums, broom corn, forage sorghums, cowpeas, alfalfa, vetch for the prevention of soil



Weighing Out the Proper Rations Requires But Little Time.

eroding, and winter wheat for pasture. From now on the farm will be used co-operatively by the bureau of plant industry and the bureau of animal industry. This is considered a necessary combination, as most of the feeds grown there are of the kind that must be fed largely to live stock.

The dairy division hopes to determine whether or not it is desirable to produce live stock under those dry-land conditions, and to grow the crops which will give the largest returns per acre in terms of milk or cream. The question is not one of crop tonnage, but of the amount of finished dairy products that can be turned out. The work here is not designed to discover the best practices for any particular state, but to study practices that will be desirable in the large dry-land regions where only certain crops can be grown.

The people of this little Oklahoma town have shown great enthusiasm in regard to the investigations that the department of agriculture contemplates. The town purchased 100 acres adjoining the old government farm, and turned it over free to the government for a period of 50 years. The voters of the town were almost unanimous in favor of this donation.

The cattle that are being used on this farm are also in the country-wide breeding project being conducted by the dairy division and bulls have been sent from the government farm at Beltsville, Md. In this breeding project, which now includes more than 300 cows and 50 bulls, it is hoped to determine what are the best methods of breeding for the improvement of cattle. The large scale of this investigation should make the results particularly valuable.

CLEAN ALL DAIRY UTENSILS

Where Several Cows Are Kept Water May Be Heated by Means of Small Boiler.

One of the greatest conveniences on the farm where cows are kept is some means for heating an abundance of water for washing the milk vessels. Where a considerable number of cows is kept, heating water by means of steam from a small, low-pressure, upright boiler is desirable, but on the small farm a stove with a basin fitted into the top (or it may be separate from the top) can be purchased cheaply and will serve the purpose, provided the water is properly heated. Water can be pumped from the well directly into the basin. In order to avoid heating the milk room and to do away with smoke and ashes, the water heater should be placed immediately outside of the milk room; and, if elevated, the water from it can be run into the washing vat.



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Is indispensable in treating
Influenza, Distemper, Coughs and Colds
so prevalent among horses and mules at this season of the year. For nearly thirty years "SPOHN'S" has been given to prevent these diseases, as well as to relieve and cure them. An occasional dose "conditions" your horse and keeps disease away. As a remedy for cases actually suffering, "SPOHN'S" is quick and certain. 50 cents and \$1.50 per bottle at drug stores.
SPOHN MEDICAL COMPANY GOSHEN, INDIANA

LAND GROWS RICH

Wonderful Development of Canada in Forty Years.

Four Decades Ago Little Considered, Today One of the Greatest Granaries and Dairying Centers.

The recent announcement that the sale of the first section of Canadian Pacific land was sold forty years ago, and when you read that the first carload of wheat was shipped from Winnipeg forty years ago, the changes that have taken place since then are matters of reminiscence, but yet of interest. What forty years ago was an unknown quantity, barren because but little production was attempted, is today one of the greatest granaries in the world. Then there was scarcely any farm live stock in the West. Dairying was not engaged in at all. Today there are 6,298,317 farm animals on the prairies, of which 881,899 are milk cows; and dairying is only second in importance to grain growing, in the West.

Forty years ago the shipment of one carload of grain was a notable exploit.

Today, Canada ranks as the second largest wheat-producing country in the world, with 329,185,300 bushels, 90 per cent of which was grown in the three prairie provinces, of which the province of Saskatchewan produced more than half. The Dominion is today the second largest producer of oats, with 530,710,000 bushels, of which 60 per cent was grown between Winnipeg and the Rocky mountains; and the fifth largest producer of barley with 63,311,000 bushels, of which the prairies yielded 65 per cent.

Forty years ago scarcely any of the rich soil had been brought under cultivation. The farm machinery of the time was crude; there were no competent advisers; government experimental farms were a blessing that came years later.

Yet these hardy pioneers stuck it out, and in forty years numbers of them are enjoying their declining days in the communities they wrested from the wilderness, prosperous, contented, with their children's families gathered about them or seeking their own fortunes still further westward or northward. They have seen civilization step in to the West and the wilderness swept out. Today are thriving cities and towns where bleaching buffalo bones marked the ox trails of forty years ago. Today are mighty freight trains, each with its thousand-ton cargo of wheat or merchandise, roaring down the roads where the old carts creaked. Today are schools within walking distance of every farmhouse, churches within driving distance of every home. Today are telephones and every modern convenience linking communities over vast distances by the common bond of the spoken word.

Forty years ago the Rockies were practically an impenetrable barrier, the Pacific coast being reached from the east by ships sailing round Cape Horn. The province of Manitoba had a population of 62,200, compared with 613,008 in 1921. Winnipeg was then a frontier town with 7,987 people, and Brandon, which was regarded as a far-flung outpost of the West, boasted of a few hundred in population. In 1891 it only had 3,778. Such places as Calgary and Edmonton were mere trading posts in the Northwest territories. Buffalo roamed the prairie in their native state.

Today on these plains are to be seen herds of cattle, bands of horses and droves of sheep, from any of which can easily be selected stock that can carry off premiums, sweepstakes and championships in competition with the best in any other part of the world.—Advertisement.

Those Short Skirts Again.
"You are leaving town?"
"For a few days," said the editor of the Chiggersville Clarion. "I'm the victim of an unfortunate typographical error."

"What happened?"
"I was commenting on the Christmas shopping crowds and said there was a fine showing of our better halves on Main street yesterday."

"Nothing more, except that the printer made it 'calves.'"—Birmingham Age-Herald.

What Did He Mean.
Frederick Franklin, head of the Boston symphony orchestra, inspires his men with his voice as well as with his baton.

Mr. Franklin one day at rehearsal was displeased with the lack of warmth that the orchestra was putting into the decidedly warm second act of "Tristan."

"Gentlemen," he protested, "gentlemen, this won't do. You're playing like husbands, not like lovers."

Just for Christmas.

She had completed her own Christmas shopping and was just looking around at the varied and beautiful things that adorned the counters of the big store. At last she came to one display that was unusually attractive but a little strange to her. "They're mighty pretty," she said to the saleslady, "but what are they for?"

"Oh, just for Christmas," was the languid reply.—Indianapolis News.

Powerful Naval Gun.

Ordnance engineers in the United States have developed a new 16-inch, 50 caliber gun, said to be more powerful than any naval gun now in existence. The gun is 69 feet long, weighs 340,000 pounds and requires 350 pounds of smokeless powder to propel its 2,400-pound projectile approximately 22 miles.

Little Althea's Prayer.

Little Althea's mother, seeing a growing tendency for the love of dress outweighing more important matters, talked with her about it, with the result that the child ended her prayer that night with: "And, dear Lord, help me to grow up Christian and go without clothes."—Judge.

Sounds Rather Like William.

"Your majesty, there's a creditor without."

"Let him go without."

Candid!

De Style—Did your generalship save your life during the World War?

Ex-Soldier—No; good trees.

Clever Fellow.

"I got off something fine this morning."

"What was that?"

"The Mauretania."—Life.

Sam says: Workers never kick and kickers never work.

Surest evidence of Americanization is a taste for pie.

Conversation flags when you have to be careful.

Yeast Vitamon Tablets Bring Real Beauty

Banishes Skin Eruptions. Puts On Firm Flesh, Strengthens The Nerves and Increases Energy.



Of what use are beautiful features if you have an ugly skin, flabby flesh, hollow cheeks or a scrawny neck? Mastin's VITAMON is positively guaranteed to give you new health, beauty and a well-rounded face and figure.

Mastin's VITAMON—the original and genuine yeast-vitamin tablet. There is nothing else like it, so do not accept imitations or substitutes. You can get Mastin's VITAMON Tablets at all good druggists.

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THE ORIGINAL TABLETS
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Concentrated Tablets Easy and Economical to Take. Results Quick.

If you want to quickly clear your skin and complexion, put some firm, healthy flesh on your bones, increase your nerve force and power, and look and feel 100 per cent better, simply try taking two of Mastin's tiny yeast VITAMON Tablets with each meal and watch results. Mastin's VITAMON contains highly concentrated yeast vitamins, as well as the other two still more important vitamins (Fat Soluble A and Water Soluble C). Pimples, boils and skin eruptions seem to vanish like magic under its purifying influence, the complexion becomes fresh and beautiful, the cheeks rosy instead of pale, the lips red instead of colorless, the eyes bright instead of dull. The whole system is toned and invigorated, and those who are under-weight begin to get some firm, "stay-there" flesh. So rapid and amazing are the results that success is absolutely guaranteed. Be sure to remember the name—Mastin's VITAMON.

Are Positively Guaranteed to Put On Firm Flesh, Clear the Skin and Increase Energy When Taken With Every Meal or Money Back

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